

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4700

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 2451

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) SG, KS, KN

SUBJ: ROK AMBASSADOR URGES SECRETARY RAISE KOREAN ISSUE WITH
SENGHOR

1. SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR CHI, WHO MEETS WITH ME PERIODICALLY TO DISCUSS MUTUAL US/ROK INTERESTS IN SENEGAL, EMPHASIZED APRIL 21 THE IMPORTANCE HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO CONTINUING US DEMARCHES TO SENEGAL AT HIGHEST LEVEL ON KOREAN ISSUE. HE ALSO INFORMED US OF APPROACHES ROK IS MAKING TO NAM GOVERNMENTS SEEKING THAT GROUP'S CONCURRENCE AT ALGIERS AND COLOMBO MEETINGS THAT BEST CHANCE FOR NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO KOREAN PROBLEM LIES IN RENEWED SOUTH-NORTH TALKS.

2. NORTH KOREAN ACTIVITY HERE IS AT HIGH POINT. NORTH KOREAN VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS VISITED SENEGAL IN MARCH TO PRESS DPRK VIEWS ON PRESIDENT SENGHOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER OF STATE SECK (DAKAR 1803), AND NORTH KOREANS SCORED DRAMATIC PROPAGANDA TRIUMPH BY TRAINING SENEGALESE GYMNASTS AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS FOR MASSIVE RALLY COMMEMORATING 16TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE APRIL 4 (DAKAR 2073). PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S 1974 VISIT TO NORTH KOREA LEFT EXTREMELY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION (AND PRODUCED GOS COMMITMENT TO SPONSOR PRO-DPRK RESOLUTION IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY); RECENT DPRK ACTIVITIES SUGGEST THEY ARE
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MAKING CONCERTED EFFORT TO SUSTAIN AFTERGLOW OF SENGHOR VISIT

AND ELICIT CONTINUED SENEGALESE SUPPORT FOR THEIR POSITIONS.

3. ON OTHER HAND, ROK RETAINS EXTREMELY CAPABLE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN DAKAR AND NORTH KOREANS HAVE MADE OCCASIONAL BLUNDERS SUCH AS HARSHLY ANTI-AMERICAN PRESS CONFERENCE HELD MARCH 6 BY DPRK CHARGE, WHICH IRRITATED GOS (DAKAR 1396, 1506). SENEGALESE PROFESS DESIRE TO BE EVEN-HANDED ON KOREAS, AS IN THEIR STATED ACCEPTANCE OR SUS RIGHT TO MAINTAIN AMERICAN TROOPS IN SOUTH KOREA UNDER BILATERAL TREATY IF UN COMMAND IS TERMINATED (DAKAR 1803-1976, DAKAR 6719-1975).

4. IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT SENGHOR'S DOMINANT PERSONAL ROLE IN SETTING SENEGALESE POLICY ON KOREA, EMBASSY ENDORSES AMBASSADOR CHI'S VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR SECRETARY TO REAFFIRM PERSONALLY TO SENGHOR THE IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO KOREAN ISSUE AND TO PROBE EXTENT OF COMMON GROUND WHICH MIGHT ENABLE US TO ENCOURAGE MORE HELPFUL SENEGALESE ROLE ON KOREAN QUESTION IN NON-ALIGNED FOR AND FUTURE UNGAS. AGGREY

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